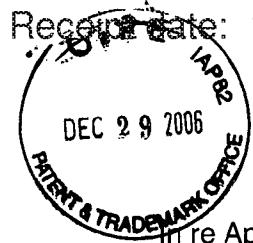


Rec'd Date: 12/29/2006

10598732 EAU 3663



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kenneth E. Welker *et al.*

§ Group Art Unit: Unknown

Serial Number: 10/598,732

§ Examiner: Unknown

Confirmation Number: 9557

§ Atty Dkt No.: 14.0248-PCT-US

Filed: September 8, 2006

§
§
§
§

Entitled: MARINE SEISMIC SURVEY
SYSTEM AND METHOD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The applicants and the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in this file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While the information submitted in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possibly material information as defined under 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. A.S./

If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account 50-1720.

Respectfully submitted,



Liangang (Mark) Ye
Registration Number 48,276
WesternGeco, L.L.C.
10001 Richmond Avenue
Houston, Texas 77042
Telephone: (713) 689-5799
Facsimile: (713) 689-1977

CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, USPTO, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: December 27, 2006.

By: Carolanne King
Carolanne M. King

12/27/2006
Date Signed

Receipt date: 12/29/2006

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

10598732 - GAU: 3663

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/598,732
				Filing Date	September 8, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Kenneth E. Welker
				Group Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	14.0248-PCT-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ²			
A1	7,047,898	B2		Petersen <i>et al.</i>	05/23/2006	
A2	2005/0219948	A1		Naess	10/06/2005	
A3	6,932,017	B1		Hillesund <i>et al.</i>	08/23/2005	
A4	6,873,571			Clayton <i>et al.</i>	03/29/2005	
A5	2004/0196737	A1		Nicholson	10/07/2004	
A6	2004/0136266	A1		Howlid <i>et al.</i>	07/15/2004	
A7	2004/0060498	A1		Petersen <i>et al.</i>	04/01/2004	
A8	6,691,038	B2		Zajac	02/10/2004	
A9	6,681,710	B2		Semb	01/27/2004	
A10	6,671,223	B2		Bittleston	12/30/2003	
A11	6,590,831	B1		Bennett <i>et al.</i>	07/08/2003	
A12	2003/0220745	A1		Campbell	11/27/2003	
A13	2003/0168277	A1		Hopperstad <i>et al.</i>	09/11/2003	
A14	2003/0151974	A1		Kutty <i>et al.</i>	08/14/2003	
A15	2003/0039170	A1		Soreau <i>et al.</i>	02/27/2003	
A16	6,525,992	B1		Olivier <i>et al.</i>	02/25/2003	
A17	6,510,390			Bunting <i>et al.</i>	01/21/2003	
A18	6,459,653	B1		Kuche	10/01/2002	
A19	6,256,589			Gallotti Guimaraes	07/03/2001	
A20	6,088,298			Onat	07/11/2000	
A21	6,031,789			Broussard <i>et al.</i>	02/29/2000	
A22	6,028,817			Ambs	02/22/2000	
A23	6,011,753			Chien	01/04/2000	
A24	6,011,752			Ambs <i>et al.</i>	01/04/2000	
A25	6,005,828			Carroll <i>et al.</i>	12/21/1999	
A26	5,995,452			Bouyoucus	11/30/1999	
A27	5,924,049			Beasley <i>et al.</i>	07/13/1999	
A28	5,920,828			Norris <i>et al.</i>	07/06/1999	
A29	5,790,472			Workman <i>et al.</i>	08/04/1998	
A30	5,784,335			Deplante <i>et al.</i>	07/21/1998	
A31	5,771,202			Bale <i>et al.</i>	06/23/1998	
A32	5,619,474			Kuche	04/08/1997	
A33	5,532,975			Elholm	07/02/1996	
A34	5,523,951			Kriesgman <i>et al.</i>	06/04/1996	
A35	5,353,223			Norton <i>et al.</i>	10/04/1994	
A36	5,281,773			Duren	01/25/1994	
A37	5,184,329			Regnault <i>et al.</i>	02/02/1993	
A38	5,142,498			Duren	08/25/1992	
A39	5,113,377			Johnson	05/12/1992	
A40	5,052,814			Stubblefield	10/01/1991	
A41	4,974,212			Sheiman	11/27/1990	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH /K.S./

Receipt date: 12/29/2006

10598732 - GAU: 3663

P10/SB-08A (10-96)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/598,732
				Filing Date	September 8, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Kenneth E. Welker
				Group Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	14.0248-PCT-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	A42	4,960,183		Young, II	10/02/1990	
	A43	4,868,793		Dunbar	09/19/1989	
	A44	4,862,422		Brac	08/29/1989	
	A45	4,798,156		Langeland <i>et al.</i>	01/17/1989	
	A46	4,748,599		Gjestrup <i>et al.</i>	05/31/1988	
	A47	4,727,956		Huizer	03/01/1988	
	A48	4,693,336		Newman	09/15/1987	
	A49	4,506,352		Brandsaeter <i>et al.</i>	03/19/1985	
	A50	4,404,664		Zachariadis	09/13/1983	
	A51	4,110,726		Dorrance <i>et al.</i>	08/29/1978	
	A52	4,087,780		Itria <i>et al.</i>	05/02/1978	
	A53	4,063,213		Itria <i>et al.</i>	12/13/1977	
	A54	4,033,278		Waters	07/05/1977	
	A55	4,027,616		Guenther <i>et al.</i>	06/07/1977	
	A56	3,953,826		Brundrit <i>et al.</i>	04/27/1976	
	A57	3,921,124		Payton	11/18/1975	
	A58	3,479,638		Rusnak	11/18/1969	
	A59	3,412,704		Buller <i>et al.</i>	11/26/1968	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	B1	GB	2 412 965	A	Statoil ASA	10/12/2005		
	B2	WO	2005/096015	A1	Statoil ASA	10/13/2005		
	B3	WO	2005/096018	A1	West-Erngeoco Seismic Holdings Ltd.	10/13/2005		
	B4	GB	2 364 388	A	Geco AS	01/23/2002		
	B5	WO	02/059650	A1	Petroleum Geo-Services AS	08/01/2002		
	B6	WO	01/55747	A1	Services Petroliers Schlumberger	08/02/2001		
	B7	EP	0 613 025	A1	Geco AS	08/31/1994		
	B8	EP	0 525 391	B1	Prakla-Seismos GmbH	02/03/1993		
	B9	EP	0 321 705	B1	Prakla-Seismos AG	06/28/1989		
	B10	EP	0 319 716	B1	Prakla-Seismos GmbH	06/14/1989		
Examiner Signature				Date Considered				

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /K.S./

Receipt date: 12/29/2006

10598732 - GAU: 3663

P10/SB/08A (10-96)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/598,732
				Filing Date	September 8, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Kenneth E. Welker
				Group Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown				
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	14.0248-PCT-US

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	B11	EP	0 018 053	B1	Shell Internationale Research Maatschappij B.V.	10/29/1980		
	B12	EP	0 018 053	A1	Shell Internationale Research Maatschappij B.V.	10/29/1980		
Examiner Signature						Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. *Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	C1	Schmidt, "Solution for seismic source registration," <i>Worldoil.com</i> , 226(9):1-3, September 2005.	
Examiner Signature	/Krystine Saito/	Date Considered	08/25/2009

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /K.S./